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Cannabinoids banned

THE TGA has announced that effective tomorrow a range of synthetic cannabinoids are to be listed in Schedule 9 as prohibited substances.

Parliamentary secretary for Health, Catherine King, said the move would "enable a uniform, nationwide prohibition on these drugs," which have no proven therapeutic value and are regularly abused.

The new entries will be incorporated into the SUSMP through a special amendment.



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BPharms have prospects!

PHARMACY graduates have the highest rate of employment for people being granted Bachelors degrees in any profession across the nation, according to a report released by Graduate Careers Australia this week.

Based on the activities of new higher education graduates in 2010 (those that completed their course requirements in 2009), the report looked into rates of employment (including full and part-time), as well as whether graduands were seeking work or whether they were unable for work or study, four months after their course

Pharmacist gout help

COMMUNITY pharmacists in New Zealand have demonstrated the important role which can be played by pharmacists in the management of patient gout.

The six week trial took place earlier in this year and involved 30 NZ pharmacies.

Participating pharmacies were given resources and training to help their staff recognise the symptoms of gout and offer advice on treating those with the debilitating condition.

"Gout is tricky to manage because the patient has to keep taking the medicine even when the symptoms have eased or when there is no immediate improvement after starting the medicine," said NZ Guild chief executive Annabel Young.

"The gout project is an example of how community pharmacy can help.

"Feedback from patients has been very positive," she added.

completion.

Overall 86.2% of pharmacy graduates reported that they were available for full time work (not studying or unable to work for other reasons) - of whom a huge 97.7% had found full-time employment.

Of the small proportion looking for work 0.7% were looking for full time jobs, and 1.6% were seeking full time employment whilst working part time or casually.

Breaking down the 13.8% of pharmacy graduates not available for full time work, 8% were in further full time study, 3.7% were in part-time or casual work and did not want full time employment, whilst 2% were unavailable for either full time work or study.

Looking at other health professions in the study, 92% of nursing graduates were available for work, of which just 73.3% were employed full time. 97.3% of medicine graduates were available for work, of which 85.8% had gained full time employment.

For more details, visit www.graduatecareers.com.au.

Vitamin D expert in Aus

RENOWNED Vitamin D expert, Dr Michael Holick, is set to hit Australian shores this month, hosting a series of pharmacist presentations.

The seminars will cover the latest Vit D research findings, as well as how to use the vitamin to support patient needs.

The seminars will take place on 24 July Sydney, 27 July Brisbane and 31 July Melbourne.

Email cs@fit.net.au for details or to register for the events.

Diabetes and fatigue

THE number one daily challenge faced by diabetics is fatigue, according to a new survey by Diabetica Research Solutions.

Involving 8,000 diabetics, the survey found 85% of respondents said fatigue made it hard for them to make it through the day, with many admitting to drinking sugary beverages to obtain energy.

"People with poorly controlled diabetes are often dehydrated and Vitamin B depleted," said Dr. Richard Corlin, Chairman DRSI Diabetes Advisory Board.

"These can be significant factors causing fatigue," he added.

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Monash slams PSA

MONASH University has issued a robust response to reported claims by PSA President Warwick Plunkett about Monash and other large universities being to blame for excess pharmacy graduates.

Monash Dean of Pharmacy, Prof William Charman, said that in fact the current Monash intake is the same as in 2004/5, as part of a deliberate strategy to provide the "best learning environment" - along with \$50m in new facilities.

He said Monash is concerned about the proliferation of pharmacy schools in Australia and a "lack of clarity, future planning and governance", adding that the current number of schools "is not sustainable".

Travel Specials

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's* travel feature. Each week we highlight a couple of great travel deals which we're sure will be of interest to everyone in the pharmacy industry.

ADVENTURE World has launched a family package onboard *ms Volendam*, during its Rugby World Cup 2011 cruise.

Highlights include rugby coaching clinics for kids with stars such as Nick Farr-Jones and Mark Ella.

The six night father/son package is priced from \$3,499 per adult departs on 04 Oct and features two Category B match tickets to quarter finals one and three, a one way airfare from Wellington to Sydney, and all meals and entertainment while aboard *Volendam*.

For further enquiries see rugby.adventureworld.com.au.

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Mayne predicts a drop

MAYNE Pharma Group expects a year-on-year drop in its gross earnings to between \$8m-\$10m for the year ended 30 June 2011.

The company blamed the result on the impact of repositioning of its Doryx portfolio in preparation for the introduction of new dosage forms, which saw Mayne's Doryx sales down 47% year-on-year.

This drop has been attributed to delays in getting US Food and Drug Administration approval for new dosage forms, as well as a run down of product inventories in the US in preparation for the new dosage launches.

Mayne also said that the strength of the Australian dollar contributed to the result, with "unfavourable exchange rate movements" reducing earnings by around \$3m.

"The average \$US dollar exchange rate settled has increased by approximately 14% compared to the prior period," a Mayne statement said.

Meanwhile the company also said that its US\$10m loan facility to Hospira for the acquisition of Mayne Pharma International in November 2009 has been reduced to US\$2.5m.

The company expects to have the remaining loan amount paid down completely during the remainder of 2011, making the company debt free.

Medici in the snow

REGISTRATIONS are now open for Medici Capital Pharmacy's Snow Business Conference in Mt. Buller from August 14 to 18.

The resort has seen over 50cm of snow in the last 3 days.
See www.medici.com.au/psb.

WIN A VITAMIN C SERUM



U Little Beauty has had a make-over!

U Little Beauty are proud to announce that not only have all of their products had a complete package redesign, but have also brought on Australia's favourite girl next door Toni Pearen as the face of the brand.

To promote the new packaging, **U Little Beauty** is giving away a Vitamin C Serum to 10 lucky **Pharmacy Daily** readers.

This very popular serum helps to combat stressed looking skin and wrinkles with a strong concentration of naturally derived Vitamin C which is a natural stimulant of

collagen and is rich in antioxidants.

To win your very own U Little Beauty Vitamin C Serum, simply send in the correct answer to the daily question below to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

What hit television show was Toni Pearen the host of?

First two entries received will win!

Hint! Visit www.ulittlebeauty.com.au

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winners, **Natasha Flynn** of **Cabot Health, NSW** and **Adrian Sung** of **Pharmacy Online Discount Outlet, NSW**.

DISPENSARY CORNER



COSMETIC surgery? There's an App for that.

A medical spa in the US has released its own iPhone App which is designed to teach users considering plastic surgery about the procedures and to help them see what they might look like afterward.

The Allure Medical Spa app, subtitled *Boost Your Beauty*, features before and after photos of patients, as well as a "visualisation tool" which allows you to morph a photo of yourself using "virtual surgery", as well as shrinking a waistline, sharpening a nose or even enhancing a chest.

The final morphed version of yourself can then be sent to friends, or to a surgeon at the spa for comment.

AND while we're on the subject, the US Transportation Security Administration has issued worldwide warnings regarding the possibility of breast enhancements or other implants having a little more shrapnel than silicone.

According to reports the agency has heard rumours of potential bomb boobs being used by would-be terrorists.

The report is not the first to come through of "creative" ways to smuggle a bomb, with Northwest Airlines having foiled an underwear bomb attempt in 2009.

In terms of the practicalities of an implant bomb, whilst scientists have said it is theoretically possible, they added that there would be significant hurdles to detonation, including body tissue dampening the potential explosion.

The current proliferation of metal detectors and full body scanners in airports would also make it very hard to get a boob bomb on a plane, the TSA said.